

## Bachelor's degrees conferred, by field of study

*Changing opportunities within the job market affect the fields in which students choose to major. In turn, the majors that students choose affect the demand for courses and faculty, as well as the supply of new graduates in different fields. Trends in the number and proportion of bachelor's degrees conferred in different fields help to identify these changing conditions.*

- After declining for several years, the number of degrees conferred in the humanities and the social and behavioral sciences has grown since the mid-1980s. Combined with business management degrees, these three types of degrees have constituted half or more of all degrees conferred since 1971.
- After a sharp decline between 1986 and 1991, the number of degrees conferred in computer sciences and engineering leveled off between 1991 and 1994 (see supplemental table 27-1).
- Degrees in the natural sciences as a percentage of all degrees conferred dropped from 10 percent in 1971 to 7 percent in 1994; a major factor in this decrease was the sharp decline in the percentage of degrees conferred in mathematics between 1971 and 1981 (see supplemental table 27-2).
- The percentage of degrees awarded in education dropped by more than one-half between 1971 and 1994, declining from 21 percent to 9 percent.

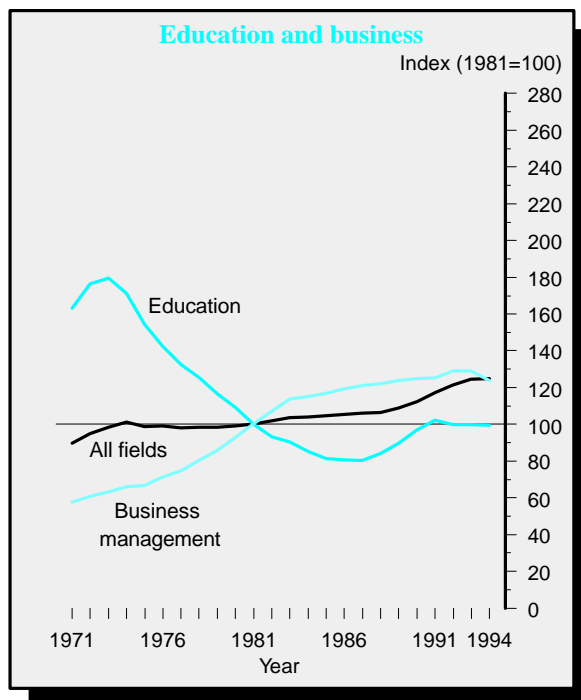
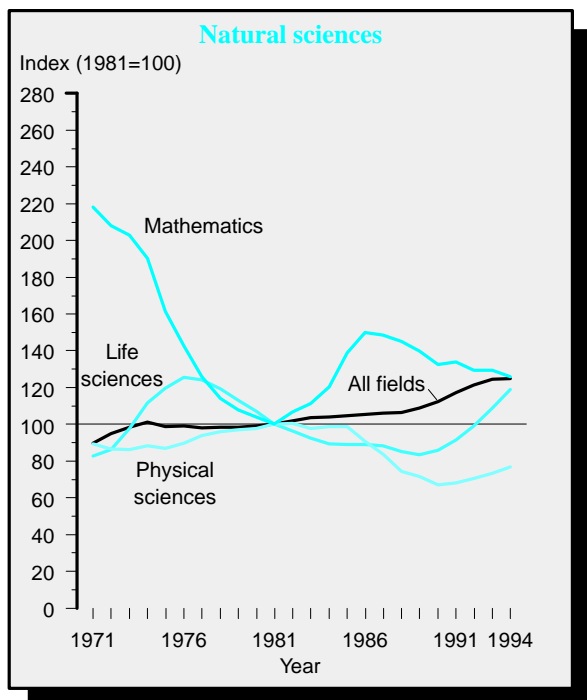
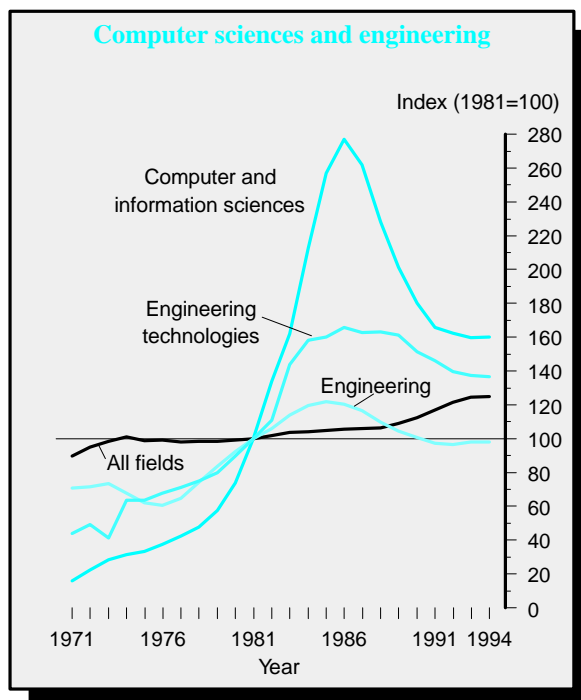
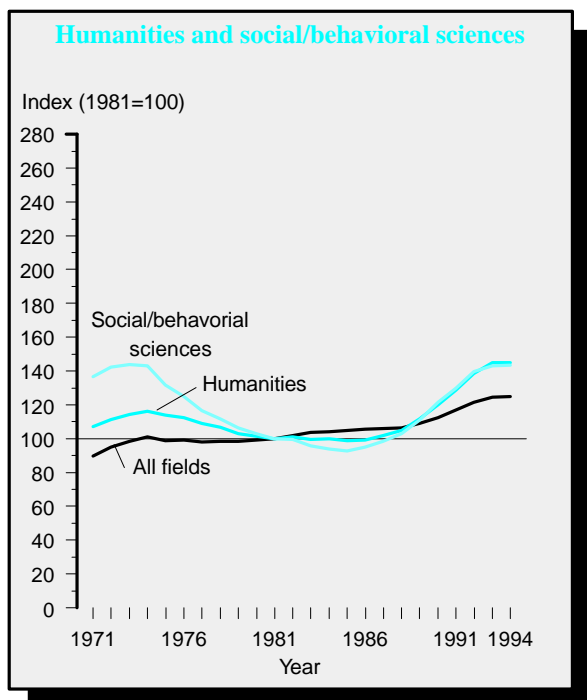
### Index of the number of bachelor's degrees conferred, and the percentage of total bachelor's degrees conferred, by field of study: Selected academic years ending 1971–94

Field of study	1971	1976	1981	1986	1991	1992	1993	1994
<b>Index of the number of degrees (1981=100)</b>								
<b>All fields</b>	<b>89.8</b>	<b>99.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>105.6</b>	<b>117.0</b>	<b>121.5</b>	<b>124.6</b>	<b>125.0</b>
Humanities	107.1	112.4	100.0	99.0	128.6	138.7	145.1	145.1
Social/behavioral sciences	136.7	124.8	100.0	95.0	129.8	139.5	143.0	143.3
Life sciences	82.7	125.6	100.0	89.1	91.5	99.4	108.8	118.9
Physical sciences	89.4	89.6	100.0	90.7	68.2	70.8	73.3	76.8
Mathematics	218.1	142.8	100.0	150.0	133.9	129.3	129.6	125.9
Computer and information sciences	15.8	37.4	100.0	277.0	165.9	162.4	160.0	160.0
Engineering	70.9	60.7	100.0	120.4	97.2	96.7	97.9	98.3
Engineering technologies	44.0	67.8	100.0	165.9	146.2	139.5	137.3	136.6
Education	163.1	142.9	100.0	80.6	102.5	99.9	99.7	99.6
Business management	57.7	71.4	100.0	119.3	125.3	129.0	129.1	124.0
Health sciences	39.6	84.8	100.0	101.2	92.8	97.0	105.4	116.9
Other technical/professional	43.2	86.6	100.0	97.3	109.2	119.4	124.7	127.6
<b>Percentage of total degrees</b>								
<b>All fields</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Humanities	17.1	16.3	14.3	13.4	15.7	16.3	16.7	16.6
Social/behavioral sciences	23.0	19.1	15.1	13.6	16.8	17.4	17.4	17.4
Life sciences	4.3	5.9	4.6	3.9	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.4
Physical sciences	2.5	2.3	2.6	2.2	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6
Mathematics	3.0	1.8	1.2	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2
Computer and information sciences	0.3	0.6	1.6	4.2	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.1
Engineering	5.3	4.1	6.8	7.7	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.3
Engineering technologies	0.6	0.9	1.3	2.0	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.4
Education	21.0	16.7	11.6	8.8	10.1	9.5	9.3	9.2
Business management	13.7	15.3	21.3	24.0	22.8	22.6	22.0	21.1
Health sciences	3.0	5.9	6.8	6.5	5.4	5.4	5.8	6.4
Other technical/professional	6.2	11.2	12.8	11.8	12.0	12.6	12.9	13.1

NOTE: Details may not add to totals due to rounding. See the supplemental note to this indicator for a description of the fields of study.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics, 1996* (based on IPEDS/HEGIS "Completions" surveys).

Index of the number of bachelor's degrees conferred (1981=100),  
by selected fields of study: Academic years ending 1971–94



NOTE: See the supplemental note to this indicator for a description of the fields of study.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics*, 1996 (based on IPEDS/HEGIS "Completions" surveys).

## Note to Indicator 27: Classification of fields of study

The data on degrees conferred by specific fields of study were obtained from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) "Degrees and Other Formal Awards Conferred" surveys and the "Completions" surveys. The list below shows how related degree fields were reclassified into a consolidated degree field for this analysis.

<u>Consolidated degree field</u>	<u>Degree fields</u>
Humanities	Area and ethnic studies English language and literature/letters Foreign languages Liberal/general studies Multi/interdisciplinary studies Philosophy and religion Theology Visual and performing arts
Social/behavioral sciences	Psychology Social sciences and history
Natural sciences	Biological sciences/life sciences Mathematics Physical sciences
Engineering	Engineering Engineering technologies Construction trades Mechanics and repairs
Other technical/professional	Agriculture Architecture Communications Communication technology Home economics Law Library/archival sciences Military sciences Parks and recreation Precision production trades Protective services Public administration and services Transportation and material moving

In the 1991–92 academic year, a new classification of instructional programs was initiated. The figures for the earlier years were reclassified when necessary to make them conform to the new taxonomy. To facilitate trend comparisons, certain aggregations have been made of the degree fields as reported in the IPEDS "Completions" surveys: "Agriculture and natural resources" includes Agribusiness and agriculture production, Agricultural sciences, and Conservation and renewable natural resources; "Business management and administrative services" includes Business and management, Business (administrative support), Marketing and distribution, and Consumer, personal, and miscellaneous services; and "Engineering-related technologies" includes Engineering-related technologies, Mechanics and repairers, and Construction trades.

**Table 27-1 Number of bachelor's degrees conferred, by field of study: Academic years ending 1971-94**

Field of study	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
<b>Total</b>	<b>839,730</b>	<b>887,273</b>	<b>922,362</b>	<b>945,776</b>	<b>922,933</b>	<b>925,746</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral sciences	337,022	350,651	357,170	358,412	338,924	327,289
Humanities	143,511	149,158	153,260	155,953	152,489	150,615
Social and behavioral sciences	193,511	201,493	203,910	202,459	186,435	176,674
Natural sciences	82,092	81,845	86,115	91,279	90,979	92,069
Life sciences	35,743	37,293	42,233	48,340	51,741	54,275
Physical sciences	21,412	20,745	20,696	21,178	20,778	21,465
Mathematics	24,937	23,807	23,186	21,761	18,460	16,329
Computer sciences and engineering	52,434	54,566	55,569	55,042	51,885	51,983
Computer and information sciences	2,388	3,402	4,304	4,756	5,033	5,652
Engineering and engineering technologies	50,046	51,164	51,265	50,286	46,852	46,331
Engineering	44,898	45,392	46,411	42,840	39,388	38,388
Engineering technologies	5,148	5,772	4,854	7,446	7,464	7,943
Technical/professional	368,182	400,211	423,508	440,479	441,145	454,405
Education	176,307	190,880	193,984	184,907	166,758	154,437
Business management	114,729	121,266	126,144	131,640	132,731	142,034
Health sciences	25,226	28,611	33,564	41,459	49,090	53,958
Other technical/professional	51,920	59,454	69,816	82,473	92,566	103,976
Not classified in a field of study	—	—	—	—	—	—

Field of study	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
<b>Total</b>	<b>917,549</b>	<b>921,204</b>	<b>921,390</b>	<b>929,417</b>	<b>935,140</b>	<b>952,998</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral sciences	311,116	300,998	288,705	281,866	275,582	276,479
Humanities	146,215	143,167	137,949	136,111	134,001	135,562
Social and behavioral sciences	164,901	157,831	150,756	145,755	141,581	140,917
Natural sciences	90,497	87,553	84,382	81,652	78,601	77,917
Life sciences	53,605	51,502	48,846	46,370	43,216	41,639
Physical sciences	22,497	22,986	23,207	23,410	23,952	24,052
Mathematics	14,395	13,065	12,329	11,872	11,433	12,226
Computer sciences and engineering	55,690	62,855	71,094	80,047	90,121	100,272
Computer and information sciences	6,407	7,201	8,719	11,154	15,121	20,267
Engineering and engineering technologies	49,283	55,654	62,375	68,893	75,000	80,005
Engineering	40,936	46,869	53,021	58,402	63,287	67,021
Engineering technologies	8,347	8,785	9,354	10,491	11,713	12,984
Technical/professional	460,246	469,798	477,209	485,852	490,836	498,290
Education	143,234	135,821	125,873	118,038	108,074	100,932
Business management	148,765	159,691	171,241	184,867	198,983	213,374
Health sciences	57,328	59,434	62,085	63,920	63,649	63,653
Other technical/professional	110,919	114,852	118,010	119,027	120,130	120,331
Not classified in a field of study	—	—	—	—	—	—

**Table 27-1 Number of bachelor's degrees conferred, by field of study: Academic years ending 1971-94 - Continued**

Field of study	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
<b>Total</b>	<b>969,510</b>	<b>974,309</b>	<b>979,477</b>	<b>987,823</b>	<b>991,264</b>	<b>994,829</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral sciences	269,225	267,406	263,883	267,094	276,060	286,304
Humanities	133,537	134,128	132,413	132,626	136,724	140,657
Social and behavioral sciences	135,688	133,278	131,470	134,468	139,336	145,647
Natural sciences	76,082	76,055	78,010	77,388	75,190	71,169
Life sciences	39,982	38,640	38,445	38,524	38,121	36,755
Physical sciences	23,381	23,651	23,704	21,717	20,070	17,806
Mathematics	12,719	13,764	15,861	17,147	16,999	16,608
Computer sciences and engineering	113,528	126,357	134,706	137,549	132,405	123,029
Computer and information sciences	24,510	32,172	38,878	41,889	39,589	34,523
Engineering and engineering technologies	89,018	94,185	95,828	95,660	92,816	88,506
Engineering	72,163	75,638	77,066	76,225	73,747	69,380
Engineering technologies	16,855	18,547	18,762	19,435	19,069	19,126
Technical/professional	510,675	504,479	*502,878	505,752	507,609	512,526
Education	97,895	92,299	88,072	87,114	86,936	91,112
Business management	226,627	229,478	232,636	237,319	240,546	243,021
Health sciences	64,685	64,288	64,422	64,396	63,103	60,644
Other technical/professional	121,468	118,414	*117,748	116,923	117,024	117,749
Not classified in a field of study	—	—	—	—	—	1,801

Field of study	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,018,755</b>	<b>1,051,344</b>	<b>1,094,538</b>	<b>1,136,553</b>	<b>1,165,178</b>	<b>1,169,275</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral sciences	306,852	332,807	356,021	383,281	396,818	397,411
Humanities	149,791	160,772	172,259	185,794	194,387	194,472
Social and behavioral sciences	157,061	172,035	183,762	197,487	202,431	202,939
Natural sciences	69,239	68,446	71,184	74,684	79,395	84,179
Life sciences	36,059	37,204	39,530	42,941	47,038	51,383
Physical sciences	17,186	16,066	16,344	16,960	17,545	18,400
Mathematics	15,994	15,176	15,310	14,783	14,812	14,396
Computer sciences and engineering	115,456	108,579	103,733	102,098	102,251	102,425
Computer and information sciences	30,454	27,257	25,083	24,557	24,200	24,200
Engineering and engineering technologies	85,002	81,322	78,650	77,541	78,051	78,225
Engineering	66,099	63,609	61,531	61,206	61,973	62,220
Engineering technologies	18,903	17,713	17,119	16,335	16,078	16,005
Technical/professional	524,803	538,799	550,342	569,770	581,467	581,958
Education	96,913	105,112	110,807	108,006	107,781	107,600
Business management	246,399	248,698	249,311	256,603	256,842	246,654
Health sciences	59,005	58,302	59,070	61,720	67,089	74,421
Other technical/professional	122,486	126,687	131,154	143,441	149,755	153,283
Not classified in a field of study	2,405	2,713	13,258	6,720	5,247	3,302

— Not available before the 1987-88 school year.

\* Revised from previously published figures.

NOTE: See the supplemental note to this indicator for a description of the fields of study.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics, 1996*, table 246 (based on IPEDS/HEGIS "Completions" surveys).

**Table 27-2 Percentage distribution of bachelor's degrees conferred, by field of study:  
Academic years ending 1971-94**

Field of study	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral sciences	40.1	39.5	38.7	37.9	36.7	35.4	33.9	32.7
Humanities	17.1	16.8	16.6	16.5	16.5	16.3	15.9	15.5
Social and behavioral sciences	23.0	22.7	22.1	21.4	20.2	19.1	18.0	17.1
Natural sciences	9.8	9.2	9.3	9.7	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.5
Life sciences	4.3	4.2	4.6	5.1	5.6	5.9	5.8	5.6
Physical sciences	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.5
Mathematics	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.4
Computer sciences and engineering	6.2	6.1	6.0	5.8	5.6	5.6	6.1	6.8
Computer and information sciences	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8
Engineering and engineering technologies	6.0	5.8	5.6	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.4	6.0
Engineering	5.3	5.1	5.0	4.5	4.3	4.1	4.5	5.1
Engineering technologies	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0
Technical/professional	43.8	45.1	45.9	46.6	47.8	49.1	50.2	51.0
Education	21.0	21.5	21.0	19.6	18.1	16.7	15.6	14.7
Business management	13.7	13.7	13.7	13.9	14.4	15.3	16.2	17.3
Health sciences	3.0	3.2	3.6	4.4	5.3	5.8	6.2	6.5
Other technical/professional	6.2	6.7	7.6	8.7	10.0	11.2	12.1	12.5
Not classified in a field of study	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Field of study	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral sciences	31.3	30.3	29.5	29.0	27.8	27.4	26.9	27.0
Humanities	15.0	14.6	14.3	14.2	13.8	13.8	13.5	13.4
Social and behavioral sciences	16.4	15.7	15.1	14.8	14.0	13.7	13.4	13.6
Natural sciences	9.2	8.8	8.4	8.2	7.8	7.8	8.0	7.8
Life sciences	5.3	5.0	4.6	4.4	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.9
Physical sciences	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.2
Mathematics	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.7
Computer sciences and engineering	7.7	8.6	9.6	10.5	11.7	13.0	13.8	13.9
Computer and information sciences	0.9	1.2	1.6	2.1	2.6	3.3	4.0	4.2
Engineering and engineering technologies	6.8	7.4	8.0	8.4	9.2	9.7	9.8	9.7
Engineering	5.8	6.3	6.8	7.0	7.4	7.8	7.9	7.7
Engineering technologies	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.9	1.9	2.0
Technical/professional	51.8	52.3	52.5	52.3	52.7	51.8	*51.3	51.2
Education	13.7	12.7	11.6	10.6	10.1	9.5	9.0	8.8
Business management	18.6	19.9	21.3	22.4	23.4	23.6	23.8	24.0
Health sciences	6.7	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.5
Other technical/professional	12.8	12.8	12.8	12.6	12.5	12.2	*12.0	11.8
Not classified in a field of study	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

**Table 27-2      Percentage distribution of bachelor's degrees conferred, by field of study:  
Academic years ending 1971-94 - Continued**

Field of study	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral sciences	27.8	28.8	30.1	31.7	32.5	33.7	34.1	34.0
Humanities	13.8	14.1	14.7	15.3	15.7	16.3	16.7	16.6
Social and behavioral sciences	14.1	14.6	15.4	16.4	16.8	17.4	17.4	17.4
Natural sciences	7.6	7.2	6.8	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.8	7.2
Life sciences	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.4
Physical sciences	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6
Mathematics	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2
Computer sciences and engineering	13.4	12.4	11.3	10.3	9.5	9.0	8.8	8.8
Computer and information sciences	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.6	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.1
Engineering and engineering technologies	9.4	8.9	8.3	7.7	7.2	6.8	6.7	6.7
Engineering	7.4	7.0	6.5	6.1	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.3
Engineering technologies	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.4
Technical/professional	51.2	51.5	51.5	51.2	50.3	50.1	49.9	49.8
Education	8.8	9.2	9.5	10.0	10.1	9.5	9.3	9.2
Business management	24.3	24.4	24.2	23.7	22.8	22.6	22.0	21.1
Health sciences	6.4	6.1	5.8	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.8	6.4
Other technical/professional	11.8	11.8	12.0	12.1	12.0	12.6	12.9	13.1
Not classified in a field of study	—	0.2	0.2	0.3	1.2	0.6	0.5	0.3

— Not available before the 1987-88 school year.

\* Revised from previously published figures.

NOTE: See the supplemental note to this indicator for a description of the fields of study.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics, 1996*, table 246 (based on IPEDS/HEGIS "Completions" surveys).

**Table 27-3 Index of the number of bachelor's degrees conferred (1981=100), by field of study:  
Academic years ending 1971-94**

Field of study	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
<b>Total</b>	<b>89.8</b>	<b>94.9</b>	<b>98.6</b>	<b>101.1</b>	<b>98.7</b>	<b>99.0</b>	<b>98.1</b>	<b>98.5</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral science:	122.3	127.2	129.6	130.1	123.0	118.8	112.9	109.2
Humanities	107.1	111.3	114.4	116.4	113.8	112.4	109.1	106.8
Social and behavioral sciences	136.7	142.3	144.0	143.0	131.7	124.8	116.5	111.5
Natural sciences	104.4	104.1	109.6	116.1	115.7	117.1	115.1	111.4
Life sciences	82.7	86.3	97.7	111.9	119.7	125.6	124.0	119.2
Physical sciences	89.4	86.6	86.4	88.4	86.7	89.6	93.9	96.0
Mathematics	218.1	208.2	202.8	190.3	161.5	142.8	125.9	114.3
Computer sciences and engineering	58.2	60.5	61.7	61.1	57.6	57.7	61.8	69.7
Computer and information sciences	15.8	22.5	28.5	31.5	33.3	37.4	42.4	47.6
Engineering and engineering technologies	66.7	68.2	68.4	67.0	62.5	61.8	65.7	74.2
Engineering	70.9	71.7	73.3	67.7	62.2	60.7	64.7	74.1
Engineering technologies	44.0	49.3	41.4	63.6	63.7	67.8	71.3	75.0
Technical/professional	75.0	81.5	86.3	89.7	89.9	92.6	93.8	95.7
Education	163.1	176.6	179.5	171.1	154.3	142.9	132.5	125.7
Business management	57.7	60.9	63.4	66.2	66.7	71.4	74.8	80.3
Health sciences	39.6	45.0	52.7	65.1	77.1	84.8	90.1	93.4
Other technical/professional	43.2	49.5	58.1	68.7	77.1	86.6	92.3	95.6

Field of study	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
<b>Total</b>	<b>98.5</b>	<b>99.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>101.9</b>	<b>103.7</b>	<b>104.2</b>	<b>104.7</b>	<b>105.6</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral science:	104.8	102.3	100.0	100.3	97.7	97.0	95.8	96.9
Humanities	102.9	101.6	100.0	101.2	99.7	100.1	98.8	99.0
Social and behavioral sciences	106.5	102.9	100.0	99.5	95.8	94.1	92.9	95.0
Natural sciences	107.4	103.9	100.0	99.1	96.8	96.8	99.2	98.5
Life sciences	113.0	107.3	100.0	96.4	92.5	89.4	89.0	89.1
Physical sciences	96.9	97.7	100.0	100.4	97.6	98.7	99.0	90.7
Mathematics	107.8	103.8	100.0	106.9	111.2	120.4	138.7	150.0
Computer sciences and engineering	78.9	88.8	100.0	111.3	126.0	140.2	149.5	152.6
Computer and information sciences	57.7	73.8	100.0	134.0	162.1	212.8	257.1	277.0
Engineering and engineering technologies	83.2	91.9	100.0	106.7	118.7	125.6	127.8	127.5
Engineering	83.8	92.3	100.0	105.9	114.0	119.5	121.8	120.4
Engineering technologies	79.9	89.6	100.0	110.9	143.9	158.3	160.2	165.9
Technical/professional	97.2	99.0	100.0	101.5	104.0	102.8	*102.5	103.0
Education	116.5	109.2	100.0	93.4	90.6	85.4	81.5	80.6
Business management	86.1	92.9	100.0	107.2	113.9	115.3	116.9	119.3
Health sciences	97.5	100.4	100.0	100.0	101.6	101.0	101.2	101.2
Other technical/professional	98.2	99.0	100.0	100.2	101.1	98.6	*98.0	97.3



**Table 27-3 Index of the number of bachelor's degrees conferred (1981=100), by field of study:  
Academic years ending 1971-94 - Continued**

Field of study	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
<b>Total</b>	<b>106.0</b>	<b>106.4</b>	<b>108.9</b>	<b>112.4</b>	<b>117.0</b>	<b>121.5</b>	<b>124.6</b>	<b>125.0</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral science	100.2	103.9	111.3	120.8	129.2	139.1	144.0	144.2
Humanities	102.0	105.0	111.8	120.0	128.6	138.7	145.1	145.1
Social and behavioral sciences	98.4	102.9	110.9	121.5	129.8	139.5	143.0	143.3
Natural sciences	95.7	90.5	88.1	87.1	90.6	95.0	101.0	107.1
Life sciences	88.2	85.0	83.4	86.0	91.5	99.4	108.8	118.9
Physical sciences	83.8	74.3	71.8	67.1	68.2	70.8	73.3	76.8
Mathematics	148.7	145.3	139.9	132.7	133.9	129.3	129.6	125.9
Computer sciences and engineering	146.9	136.5	128.1	120.5	115.1	113.3	113.5	113.7
Computer and information sciences	261.8	228.3	201.4	180.3	165.9	162.4	160.0	160.0
Engineering and engineering technologies	123.8	118.0	113.3	108.4	104.9	103.4	104.1	104.3
Engineering	116.5	109.6	104.4	100.5	97.2	96.7	97.9	98.3
Engineering technologies	162.8	163.3	161.4	151.2	146.2	139.5	137.3	136.6
Technical/professional	103.4	104.4	106.9	109.8	112.1	116.1	118.5	118.6
Education	80.4	84.3	89.7	97.3	102.5	99.9	99.7	99.6
Business management	120.9	122.1	123.8	125.0	125.3	129.0	129.1	124.0
Health sciences	99.1	95.3	92.7	91.6	92.8	97.0	105.4	116.9
Other technical/professional	97.4	98.0	102.0	105.5	109.2	119.4	124.7	127.6

\* Revised from previously published figures.

NOTE: See the supplemental note to this indicator for a description of the fields of study.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics*, 1996, table 246

(based on IPEDS/HEGIS "Completions" surveys).

**Table 27-4 Number of bachelor's degrees conferred, by race/ethnicity and field of study:  
Selected academic years ending 1977-94**

Race/ethnicity and field of study	1977	1979	1981	1985	1987	1989	1991	1992	1993	1994
<b>White</b>										
<b>Total degrees</b>	<b>805,186</b>	<b>799,617</b>	<b>807,319</b>	<b>826,106</b>	<b>841,820</b>	<b>859,699</b>	<b>904,062</b>	<b>936,771</b>	<b>947,309</b>	<b>936,227</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral scienc	271,490	249,100	238,522	224,152	237,293	262,603	301,946	320,841	326,894	321,033
Humanities	130,327	120,305	118,286	113,084	118,620	129,701	147,970	157,513	161,895	159,037
Social and behavioral sciences	141,163	128,795	120,236	111,068	118,673	132,902	153,976	163,328	164,999	161,996
Natural sciences	80,313	73,523	67,967	64,629	61,994	55,845	56,948	59,129	61,908	65,043
Life sciences	47,623	42,705	37,276	31,807	31,279	28,874	30,994	33,179	35,766	38,736
Physical sciences	20,189	20,650	21,246	20,660	17,159	14,492	13,500	14,044	14,275	15,007
Mathematics	12,501	10,168	9,445	12,162	13,556	12,479	12,454	11,906	11,867	11,300
Computer sciences and engineering	46,864	59,178	73,413	107,759	103,539	88,927	77,839	76,427	75,368	74,657
Computer and information sciences	5,473	7,384	12,565	31,321	30,251	22,366	17,903	17,311	16,502	16,191
Engineering*	41,391	51,794	60,848	76,438	73,288	66,561	59,936	59,116	58,866	58,466
Technical/professional	406,519	417,816	427,417	429,566	438,994	452,324	467,329	480,374	483,139	475,494
Education	125,148	108,949	93,724	77,531	78,216	88,276	100,141	97,460	96,857	95,482
Business management	132,814	150,759	174,198	196,915	205,118	208,325	206,308	209,768	205,083	191,111
Health sciences	51,513	55,746	56,790	55,501	55,410	51,053	49,876	52,281	56,464	62,756
Other technical/professional	97,044	102,362	102,705	99,619	100,250	104,670	111,004	120,865	124,735	126,145
<b>Black</b>										
<b>Total degrees</b>	<b>58,515</b>	<b>60,130</b>	<b>60,673</b>	<b>57,473</b>	<b>56,555</b>	<b>58,065</b>	<b>65,341</b>	<b>72,326</b>	<b>77,872</b>	<b>83,576</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral scienc	20,107	19,266	18,045	15,272	15,060	16,384	20,222	23,157	25,392	27,445
Humanities	6,567	7,014	6,608	6,505	6,583	7,022	8,300	9,698	10,701	11,626
Social and behavioral sciences	13,540	12,252	11,437	8,767	8,477	9,362	11,922	13,459	14,691	15,819
Natural sciences	3,785	3,830	3,759	3,640	3,622	3,447	3,794	4,180	4,612	4,972
Life sciences	2,413	2,487	2,269	2,045	1,932	1,942	2,154	2,428	2,784	3,022
Physical sciences	665	691	906	829	844	704	772	836	850	946
Mathematics	707	652	584	766	846	801	868	916	978	1,004
Computer sciences and engineering	1,729	2,261	3,235	5,302	6,429	5,752	5,528	5,742	5,972	6,371
Computer and information sciences	361	505	786	2,143	2,928	2,533	2,063	2,147	2,261	2,455
Engineering*	1,368	1,756	2,449	3,159	3,501	3,219	3,465	3,595	3,711	3,916
Technical/professional	32,894	34,773	35,634	33,259	31,444	32,482	35,797	39,247	41,896	44,788
Education	12,922	11,509	9,494	5,456	4,253	4,245	4,816	5,226	5,590	6,316
Business management	9,976	11,430	13,400	14,999	14,686	15,105	16,648	18,304	19,187	20,366
Health sciences	3,135	3,380	3,603	3,836	3,822	3,981	4,209	4,222	4,744	4,896
Other technical/professional	6,861	8,454	9,137	8,968	8,683	9,151	10,124	11,495	12,375	13,210
<b>Hispanic</b>										
<b>Total degrees</b>	<b>18,663</b>	<b>20,029</b>	<b>21,832</b>	<b>25,874</b>	<b>26,990</b>	<b>29,910</b>	<b>36,612</b>	<b>40,761</b>	<b>45,376</b>	<b>50,241</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral scienc	7,764	7,594	7,754	8,049	8,468	10,412	13,438	16,386	18,503	20,842
Humanities	3,537	3,469	3,561	3,872	4,184	4,950	6,362	7,751	9,261	10,410
Social and behavioral sciences	4,227	4,125	4,193	4,177	4,284	5,462	7,076	8,635	9,242	10,432
Natural sciences	1,534	1,642	1,734	1,915	1,951	1,956	2,294	2,510	2,730	3,186
Life sciences	981	1,109	1,144	1,241	1,259	1,258	1,503	1,673	1,855	2,137
Physical sciences	332	339	405	417	423	386	390	382	438	523
Mathematics	221	194	185	257	269	312	401	455	437	526
Computer sciences and engineering	980	1,272	1,735	3,068	3,630	3,343	3,550	3,548	3,800	4,005
Computer and information sciences	93	155	302	826	1,077	896	917	901	860	899
Engineering*	887	1,117	1,433	2,242	2,553	2,447	2,633	2,647	2,940	3,106
Technical/professional	8,385	9,521	10,609	12,842	12,941	14,199	17,330	18,317	20,343	22,208
Education	3,050	3,029	2,847	2,533	2,223	2,281	3,503	3,116	2,973	3,295
Business management	2,588	3,196	4,114	5,771	6,397	7,017	7,831	8,466	9,588	10,264
Health sciences	863	1,066	1,153	1,550	1,332	1,397	1,709	1,765	2,009	2,274
Other technical/professional	1,884	2,230	2,495	2,988	2,989	3,504	4,287	4,970	5,773	6,375

**Table 27-4 Number of bachelor's degrees conferred, by race/ethnicity and field of study:  
Selected academic years ending 1977-94 - Continued**

Race/ethnicity and field of study	1977	1979	1981	1985	1987	1989	1991	1992	1993	1994
<b>Asian/Pacific Islander</b>										
<b>Total degrees</b>	<b>13,745</b>	<b>15,336</b>	<b>18,794</b>	<b>25,395</b>	<b>32,618</b>	<b>37,686</b>	<b>41,618</b>	<b>46,720</b>	<b>51,463</b>	<b>55,660</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral science	4,442	4,400	4,807	5,618	7,895	10,108	12,022	14,032	15,644	17,240
Humanities	1,993	2,032	2,323	2,754	3,765	4,572	5,457	6,368	7,336	7,991
Social and behavioral sciences	2,449	2,368	2,484	2,864	4,130	5,536	6,565	7,664	8,308	9,249
Natural sciences	1,996	2,204	2,476	3,593	4,588	4,914	5,580	6,381	7,256	8,153
Life sciences	1,314	1,458	1,489	1,950	2,620	2,954	3,634	4,488	5,203	6,083
Physical sciences	367	425	596	763	918	931	1,004	1,025	1,124	1,126
Mathematics	315	321	391	880	1,050	1,029	942	868	929	944
Computer sciences and engineering	1,362	2,099	3,735	7,057	9,043	9,264	9,202	9,323	9,617	9,682
Computer and information sciences	163	262	669	2,044	2,546	2,361	2,075	2,140	2,294	2,301
Engineering*	1,199	1,837	3,066	5,013	6,497	6,903	7,127	7,183	7,323	7,381
Technical/professional	5,945	6,633	7,776	9,127	11,092	13,400	14,814	16,984	18,946	20,585
Education	894	785	723	770	1,092	1,106	890	977	1,100	1,122
Business management	2,596	3,135	3,943	5,274	6,002	7,973	9,100	10,592	11,780	12,486
Health sciences	1,018	1,087	1,312	1,310	1,577	1,710	2,018	2,261	2,513	3,070
Other technical/professional	1,437	1,626	1,798	1,773	2,421	2,611	2,806	3,154	3,553	3,907
<b>American Indian/Alaskan Native</b>										
<b>Total degrees</b>	<b>3,319</b>	<b>3,404</b>	<b>3,593</b>	<b>4,246</b>	<b>3,971</b>	<b>3,954</b>	<b>4,513</b>	<b>5,176</b>	<b>5,671</b>	<b>6,189</b>
Humanities and social and behavioral science	1,143	1,144	1,211	1,260	1,246	1,237	1,501	1,828	2,116	2,283
Humanities	504	470	541	612	596	611	737	903	1,000	1,096
Social and behavioral sciences	639	674	670	648	650	626	764	925	1,116	1,187
Natural sciences	250	252	220	318	274	259	297	297	364	398
Life sciences	157	148	137	161	147	146	180	185	215	252
Physical sciences	67	63	65	98	74	62	70	66	93	85
Mathematics	26	41	18	59	53	51	47	46	56	61
Computer sciences and engineering	149	173	216	452	405	368	317	356	367	403
Computer and information sciences	15	11	21	139	116	88	82	81	83	79
Engineering*	134	162	195	313	289	280	235	275	284	324
Technical/professional	1,777	1,835	1,946	2,216	2,046	2,090	2,398	2,695	2,824	3,105
Education	707	645	569	483	452	533	618	654	644	739
Business management	433	505	636	921	783	797	868	949	1,051	1,036
Health sciences	154	206	209	273	274	239	285	332	348	398
Other technical/professional	483	479	532	539	537	521	627	760	781	932

\* Engineering technologies cannot be derived by race/ethnicity from the "Engineering" category.

NOTE: See the supplemental note to this indicator for a description of the fields of study.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, *Digest of Education Statistics, 1996*, table 260,

(based on IPEDS/HEGIS "Completion" surveys).